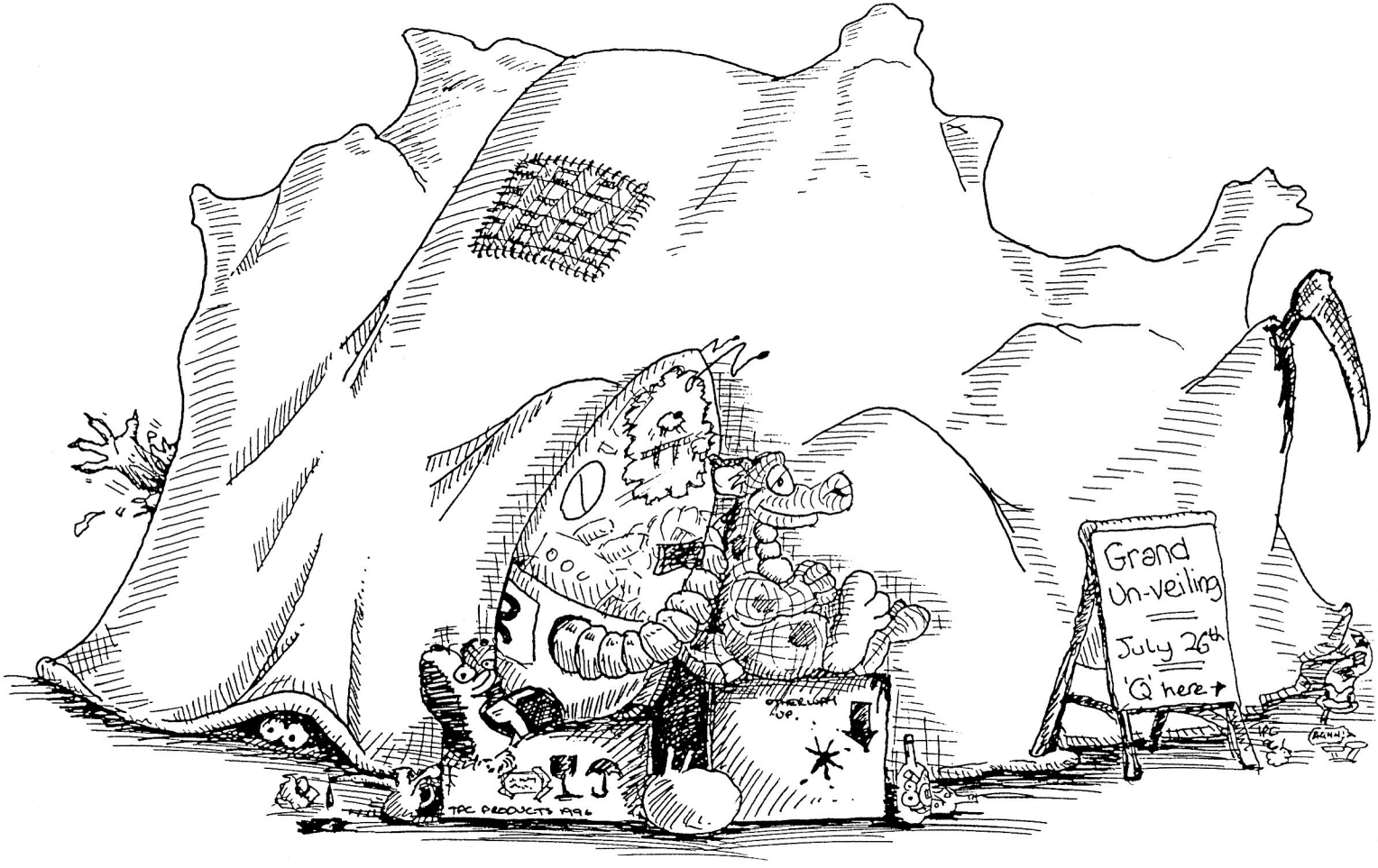

Grand
Un-veiling
July 26th
'Q' here +
TPC PRODUCTS 1996

Welcome to Progress Report 3.

This is the last publication you will receive before the convention. This PR includes details about getting to the Central Hotel in Glasgow, some information about the programme, bits 'n' bobs and the following sad news.

On 12th April, Harlan Ellison had a massive heart attack and underwent emergency cardiac surgery. Consequently, his appearance at the convention has had to be cancelled which is a disappointment to ALBACON 96 as well as Harlan & Susan, who were looking forward to the trip. The committee is currently pursuing another guest to fill the void and certainly hope that you will still be coming to the convention. If anyone wishes to withdraw their membership due to Harlan's cancellation, a full refund will be given.

During the last few months, the convention has been experiencing a crisis brought on by slow advance memberships and more recently coming to a head with Harlan's cancellation. At one point, the option of cancellation was becoming more inevitable as time went on. However, following a recent meeting, it was unanimously agreed that ALBACON 96 would continue as planned, to the great relief of myself and most of our members, I shouldn't wonder! Many of you have been phoning to find out what is going on following the news of possible cancellation which has been circulating since Eastercon.

If there are any enquiries about the convention, please contact me at the following:

ALBACON 96, Flat ½ 10 Atlas Road, Glasgow G21 4TE.
Tel: [0141] 558 2862 - Fax: [0141] 332 3838

IMPORTANT NOTE: from 1st June 1996, our Email address will not be available. If you need to contact us urgently, please use the phone & fax numbers listed. Thanks.

T.T.F.N.

Cuddles.

LOST SOULS

We need to update our records for the following people who have either given an incomplete address or have none listed. If you know them, or where they can be found, please contact the convention HQ as soon as possible.

Chris Atherton, Niall Hosking, David McGrory, Rex Thorsson (formerly of RP Games Warehouse & Graphic Books) and Elliot Whitby.

HELP! WE NEED SOMEONE - CAN ANYONE HEAR US?

A convention the size of ALBACON is impossible to run without help. We are desperately seeking fans who will be willing to gopher for us over the weekend. If you can let us know in advance, all the better! Duties will range from security patrols, manning video & programme rooms, helping with the auction, helping with the masquerade etc. if you would like to help, write in or phone the convention HQ. Alternatively, register for duty

on arrival and your schedule will be allocated. Please remember that you are at the con to have fun so work out your schedule according to what you want to see & do on the programme! You may be called to help at very short notice for urgent work as well, so be prepared!

ART SHOW

So far, there are been very few people interested in the art show, judging from the stunning response to register work for the exhibition.

If you are a keen artist, regardless of the material that you use: paint, clay, fabric - use the art show to get noticed! It could also be an excellent opportunity to sell some of your (hard) work. The appropriate forms can be obtained by contacting the convention HQ as soon as possible.

MECHFORCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will take place on Sunday from 9.30am.

A small administration fee will be charged by the organisers to all competitors. Those who are attending the Championships but not the convention, will be charged a nominal fee by ALBACON 96, to give access to the convention bar only. Special badges will be issued for these participants for security purposes.

PROGRAMME NEWS

The main programme is scheduled to start at midday on 26th July 1996. It will probably open with a movie but video rooms, the computer network & gaming rooms should be getting started slightly earlier.

The registration desk will open at 10am on Friday but members who arrive on Thursday night will be able to collect their membership packs that evening. Traditionally, the Glasgow SF group THE FRIENDS OF KILGORE TROUT, will hold their regular weekly meeting in the Ailsa Bar at the Central on the eve of the con. Since most of the committee are TROUT's, it goes without saying that they will definitely be there, no doubt working through the night with setting up the convention, ably assisted by anyone who offers and alcoholic support!

Other highlights for the first day of the convention: the animated movie WIZARDS, which has been long absent from ALBACON's, the APOLLO 13 Crisis Game and a special production by Iain Sorensen & Phillip Raines, who are following their hilarious success of DUNE - The Sands of Music, which they performed at INTERSECTION. Belly laughs all round!

Those of you who were at HYPOTHETICON in 1995 will have experienced the excellent ceilidh band, Steep the Feet, who will be providing the dancing music for Saturday night's ALBACON ceilidh which will be held after the Masquerade competition and

convention lottery. ALBACON decided to inject a bit more humour into the convention, which seemed like a good idea with Terry around. The Lottery will be presented by Peter Morwood, who is definitely a lot cuter than Anthea Turner and a lot funnier. All the money raised from this daft programme item will be donated directly into the charity pool.

Making his first appearance at a science fiction convention is Professor Edwin Dawes. A biochemist by profession, he is also a member of The Magic Circle and will be making a special presentation about magic through the ages on Sunday evening. ALBACON promised something different and we always deliver!

We are now taking entries for the following quizzes:

- 2000 A.D.: this will be a chance for the joint winners to have a rematch but if you feel up to the challenge, why not join in the race.

- INTERACTIVE TRIVIAL PURSUIT: six teams of 2

- APOLLO 13 CRISIS GAME: three teams of 3

- CALL BY BLUFF: two teams of 3

Following the success of the special Gay & Lesbian programming at INTERSECTION, the committee has approached the local chapter of Delaney's Children to do something similar at ALBACON 96. This will hopefully provide an even broader range of programming to the convention. [Delaney's Children was established at Worldcon 95 and is a group for gay, lesbian & bisexual SF fans - and their friends. There are local meetings in Glasgow and details about joining will be available at ALBACON 96]

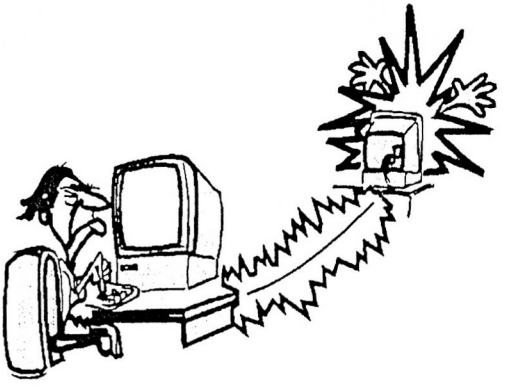
ALBACON 96 also hopes to present a small series of Writers Workshops, aimed at encouraging new writers by providing practical advice and active discussion on a variety of topics including Script Writing, Getting Published, etc. If you are interested in taking part, please let us know in advance so that the programme can be tailored according to demand, giving your name and the area(s) or topic you would like to see covered by the workshops.

If you would like to participate, or have your own ideas for a programme item, please let us know and we look forward to hearing from you.

GAMING EVENTS

ALBACON 96 hopes to have some demonstration games for beginners scheduled in the gaming rooms as well as a range of card & dice games to fantasy role-playing games including: Vampire - The Masquerade, MAGIC, ROBO RALLY etc. If you would like to utilise the role-playing room, please contact Ralph at the convention address and let him know what you would like to run and when.

The Computer Network Room will be running games such as DOOM, HERETIC, DUKE NUKEM 3D and HEXEN. Strategy games such as WARCRAFT 2 and COMMAND & CONQUER will be used. If there is something people would like to see included, please let us know in advance and we will see what we can arrange. There will be a small usage fee for network games, which will be donated to the convention charities. This fee is being imposed to ensure that everyone gets a chance to use the room and a games timetable will be enforced.



HOTEL REMINDER

If you have not already booked hotel accommodation, do so quickly. Bedrooms allocated for ALBACON 96 will only be held for a limited period. If you delay your booking until the last minute - BEWARE! - you could find yourself in another hotel. Where possible, try and return a booking form but phone Cuddles if time is pressing. Here is a reminder of the room rates:

SINGLE/TWIN/DOUBLE £22
TRIPLE £20
QUAD £18

GETTING TO THE CONVENTION HOTEL

The Central Hotel, Glasgow is situated at the corner of Gordon Street & Hope Street, adjacent to the Central Station. There is a complex one-way system in the area, so pay attention to the instructions.

BY TRAIN from the South: these rail services terminate at Central Station and there is direct access to the hotel from the passenger concourse.

BY TRAIN (arriving at Queen Street Station): it will take you no more than 10 minutes to walk. If you have heavy luggage, there is a shuttle bus between the two stations.

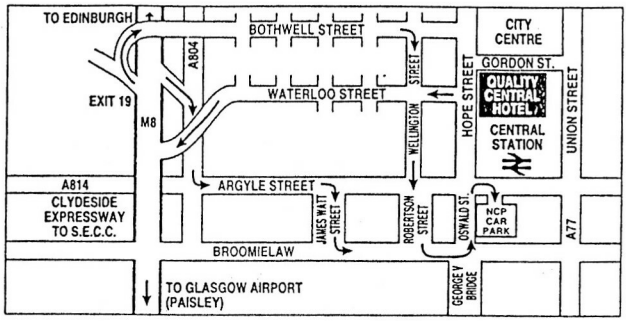
BY MOTOR VEHICLE from the South or north of Glasgow: come off at Junction 19 (SECC). Turn left into Argyle Street then left at the lights just before the station canopy into Hope Street. Parking may be difficult, especially at peak times.

If you intend to park in the NCP car park, Oswald Street, take first right after turning into Argyle Street, then left onto Broomielaw (parallel with the river). Turn left at the lights before the rail bridge then first right to get to the entrance. The hotel has negotiated special rates for convention attendees which is slightly cheaper than the standard rates (ask at reception). Direct access into the station from level 5.

BY MOTOR VEHICLE from the airport and south of the city: take Junction 18 (City Centre) and turn 5th right down to Argyle Street. Turn left then left into Hope Street. If you intend parking in the NCP, continue down to Broomielaw and follow the directions given in the previous paragraph.

There is a shuttle bus from the airport which can drop you off quite close to the hotel if you ask for Central Station. The adult fares are: £2 (single) £4 (return). Taxis fares from the airport normally start at £10.

Please use this map to help you.



DISABLED ACCESS SERVICE

ELECTRICAL EGGS (UK)™ will be providing a basic service during the convention. The services will include Priority Seating, 1st Entry, Line Jumping and Medical Alert Registration. If there is sufficient demand, a large print publication of the Programme Book will be provided. At this time, no guarantees can be given about the provision of equipment such as wheelchairs.

Any members who registered to use the service at INTERSECTION can use the button badges they were issued with but please inform ALBACON 96 if you plan to use the Access Service©. Newcomers to the Access Service© should use the Registration Form provided with this progress report and return it to the convention address as soon as possible. Access Badges will be issued in the membership pack, with advice on using them, on arrival at the convention registration desk.

Please note: the Medical Alert details are vital for first aid purposes and any information provided will be treated as confidential. Access to the information will be restricted to Cuddles and made available to first aid volunteers or paramedics in emergencies only. If you have a medical condition such as diabetes, it is important that you complete the form. Alert labels will be provided at the registration desk for you to stick on the back of your membership badge.

Further information & enquiries about the Access Service© can be obtained by contacting Cuddles at the convention address, or by phone if this is more conveniant.

MEMBERSHIP LIST (10th May 1996)

A-attending S-supporting PS-pre-supporting G-guest C-committee

A57	Auntie Christine
A150	Anonymous Sad Magic Player
A36	A.A. Addams
A71	Kay Allan
A74	Chris Atherton
A91	Graeme Anderson
A114	Kirsty Aird
A158	Iain Aitken
A163	Erik Arthur
S176	Manfred Alex
A113	A1 Books & Comics
A186	Russell Aitken
A204	Richard Aitken
A145	Bunisher II
PS18	Steve Basten
A27	Claire Brialey
A33	Colin Boyd
A42	Kirsty Blut
A77	Ed Buckley
A78	Andrew Barton
A83	Lorna Bootland
A89	Peter B. Bell
A96	Roger Burton-West
A98	Chris Boyce
A108	Dave Ballantyne
A112	David Burns
G5	Matt Bielby
A126	Sarah Barker
A139	Alex Breadner
S156	Alistair Baxter
A166	Jim Braiden
A168	Ped
A184	Tony Berry
A189	Jim Bain
C20	Cuddles
A28	Noel Collyer
A49	Gordon Cunningham
A79	Howard Cutland
A92	Roddy Chisholm
C106	Ian Cairns
S120	Dónal Cunningham
S134	Mike Cobley
S146	Andrew Clowe
S147	Jill Clowe
C157	Jim Campbell
A174	Brigid Cooling
C195	Jason Cumming
A111	Dirty, Mean & Nasty
A15	Chad Dixon
A35	Ruth Durie
A37	Martyn Delaney
A45	Chantal Delessert
A104	Alligator De Scartes
A56	Colin Dalgleish
A69	Christine Davidson
A70	Michael Davidson
A131	Liam Duffy
A135	Roy Drayton
A148	Elsie Donald
A170	Julia Daly
A175	John Dallman
G6	Prof. Dawes
G7	Mrs Dawes
C21	Elf
A53	John Ewing
A61	John S. Ewing
A73	Alex Elrick
G1	Harlan Ellison
G2	Susan Ellison
A143	Chris Edwards
A182	Mark Englefield
S129	Fizgig
A116	Mike Figg
A117	Janet Figg
A178	Alison Freebairn
A102	Maggie Furey
A103	Eric Furey
A164	Fantasy Centre
A165	Fantasy Centre
A25	Steve Grover
A52	Alan Gunn
G8	Guest of T. Pratchett
G9	Guest of D. Hardy
A62	Colin Goldie
A63	Jette Goldie
A93	Jim Gillespie
A100	Carol Gollaglee
A125	Alex Gearns
A154	Gary Gibson
A161	Paul Gooding
C193	Dave Girling
A39	Harry the Cat
A50	John Hutton
A75	Niall Hosking
A81	Eileen Hessan
A90	Tanz Hossain
A97	George Houston
A115	Martin Hoare
G4	Dave Hardy
A132	Allison Hill
A199	Jan Hodges
A201	Greg Hughes
A151	Jelly
A32	Wendy Kirkwood
A149	Morag Kerr
S29	Lemming
A60	Marion Letterick
A124	David Lally
A171	Alistair Lloyd
A172	Karin Lundwall
A188	Erlend Leslie
A198	Gary Laverty
A86	Mad Elf
A202	Murff
A30	Ian McCord
A41	Neil McChrystal
A48	Mary Frances McGuinn
A51	Stuart McMillan
A84	Danny McCabe
A94	Scotty McLeod
A101	Bruce McDonald
A119	Pat McMurray
S127	Donald McDonald
A162	David McGrory
S130	John McShane
A190	Pauline McKendrick
A191	John McKendrick
A192	Richard McKendrick
A197	Allan McDaniel
A17	Ann Mair
A43	Richard Miller
A46	Penny Miller
A54	Sandy Matthews
A55	Elaine Matthews
A64	William Moffat
A72	Miriam Moss
A80	Iain Murray
A85	Joyce Mains
A137	Norrie Moore
A138	James Murnin
A155	Brian Milton
A173	Paul Meloy
A133	Nojay
C194	Gordon Nimmo
A26	Old Lotch
A187	Obelist Books
A118	Roderick O'Hanlon
A123	Kenneth O'Neil
A169	James O'Dell
A185	Chris O'Shea
A16	Pompino the Kregoyne
S99	Andrew Ian Porter
G3	Terry Pratchett
A152	Paul Paolini
A159	Alan Payne
A167	Rog Peyton
S179	Jennifer Anne Quin
A65	Deborah Ramage
A66	Andrew Ramage
A144	Neil Riddoch
A76	Cara Roberts
A88	Jean Ritchie
A59	Sorcerer
A153	Savanagh
C183	Sparks
A58	Smurf
A121	Smudge
S23	Iain Smith
A40	Robert J. Sneddon
A44	Neil Simpson
A105	Carolyn Sleith
A68	Kate Soley
A82	Ken Slater
A87	Colin Speirs
A95	Janice Sorrell
A110	Gary Sanderson
A128	David Stewart
A42	Meurig Sage
A160	Andrew Saxby
A180	Ivan Sinha
A181	Sheila Sinha
A200	Kathleen Shiel
A24	Tony
A205	Torad
A67	Cameron Taylor
A122	Rex Thorsson
A136	Jim Toner
A38	Stuart Vandal
A34	Elliot Whitby
A31	Janet Wilkins
A47	Allison Welsh
A107	Carol West
A109	Robert Watt
A22	Brian Waugh
A141	Neil Williamson
S177	Pam Wells
A140	Norman Young
A203	Karen Yeoman
C19	Zafra